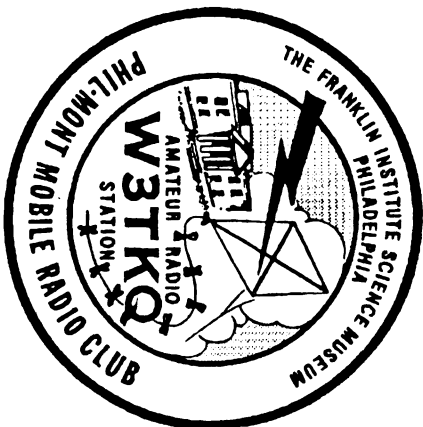


FIRST CLASS MAIL



A Publication of
THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE, FURLONG, PA 18925

THE BLURB

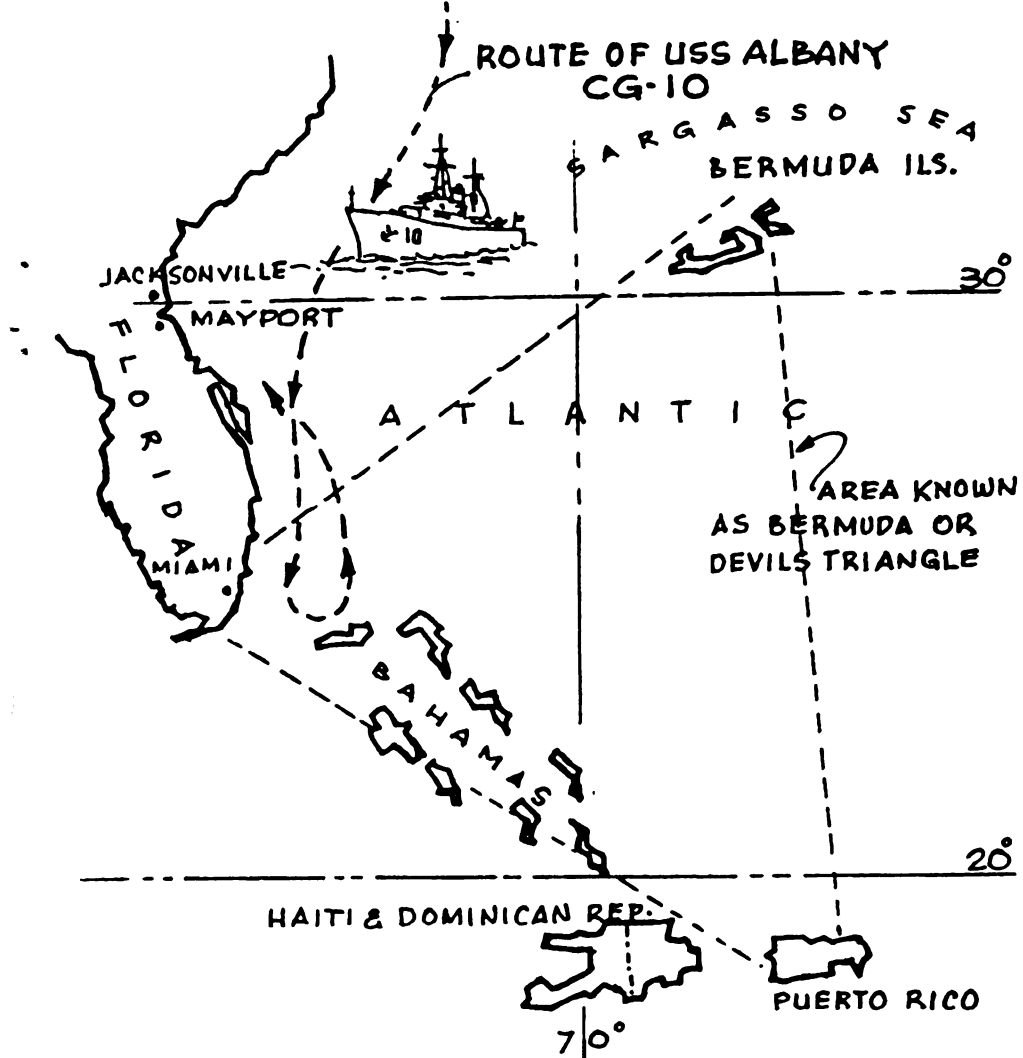
PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB
W3RQZ•W3TKQ•W3QV



SEPTEMBER 1992



THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE... ANOTHER EVENT



is published monthly by, and for, the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC. whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. BLURB subscriptions are available to non-members for \$10.00 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the first non-holiday WEDNESDAY of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Use the Winter Street (north side) entrance.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - the first non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum - doors close at 6:30 PM-SHARP!

CLUB INFORMATION

24-Hour Information Number at W3TKQ -(215) 448-1139

Repeater frequencies: 147.03 (Bucks County input requires 131.8Hz PL)

444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz

Packet BBS frequency at W3TKQ-10: 145.05 MHz

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS

W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG

ALL LICENSED AMATEURS ARE WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: N3FVI, Bill Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Philadelphia, PA 19128 (215) 487-9472

VICE PRESIDENT: N3GLH, Brad Swanson, 517 Cresheim Valley Road, Wynmoor, PA 19118 (215) 836-2475

SECRETARY: WU3I, Steve Hoch, 4638 Oakland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124 (215) 535-8061

TREASURER: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095 (215) 572-5238

DIRECTORS

W3BBB (92); KC2HX (92); AK2I (93); W3IIM (A); K3KUD (A); N2RM (93); W3RM (A)

COMMITTEES

Archives:	W3IIM	Emerg. Coord.:	W3BBB	Repeater:	W3BBB
BLURB:	W3IIM	Membership:	W3IIM	Special Events:	KA3EBC
Budget /Audit:	W3IIM	Net Control:	KB3IV	VE Program:	ND3Q
Directory:	WB3KOJ	Program:	N3GLH	TVI:	-----
DX:	-----	Publicity:	N3IEI	W3TKQ:	W3PWG
Education:	N3FTZ	Refreshments:	N3FVI	Welcome:	-----

Special Liaison to The Franklin Institute Science Museum: AK2I

BLURB STAFF

Editor: W3IIM, Jack Haring, 2113 Edgehill Drive, Furlong, PA 18925
215-794-7623

Artist: Sam Kuncevic

N3DHI, WB3KOJ

Publisher/Typist: W3IIM

DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy MUST be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting!

NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030	MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.993	MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET RESUMES SEPT 15
LAST WED	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	W3TKQ OPERATORS' NET



APPLE BYTES

Don Gordon, WB3KOJ

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02 Greg Malone, N3FSC

03 Marian Fox, WA3YJR

06 Len Kovnat, WB3JUA

08 Al Bubeck, K3GNM

Bill Hagerty, KE3CJ*

13 Marge Concordia -
(XYL WB3KAC)

15 Bob Freer, W3YLT

17 Vikye Swanson (XYL N3GLH) *= NEW MEMBER

20 Bill Isherwood, KA2VTR

John Sims, N3HML

Jack Spratt, N3ALW

21 Hal Fox, W3AA

23 Shelly Klein, K3QNX -
(XYL W3WXC)

26 Paul Ives, W3SMA

28 Millie Rulli (XYL WB2WOM)

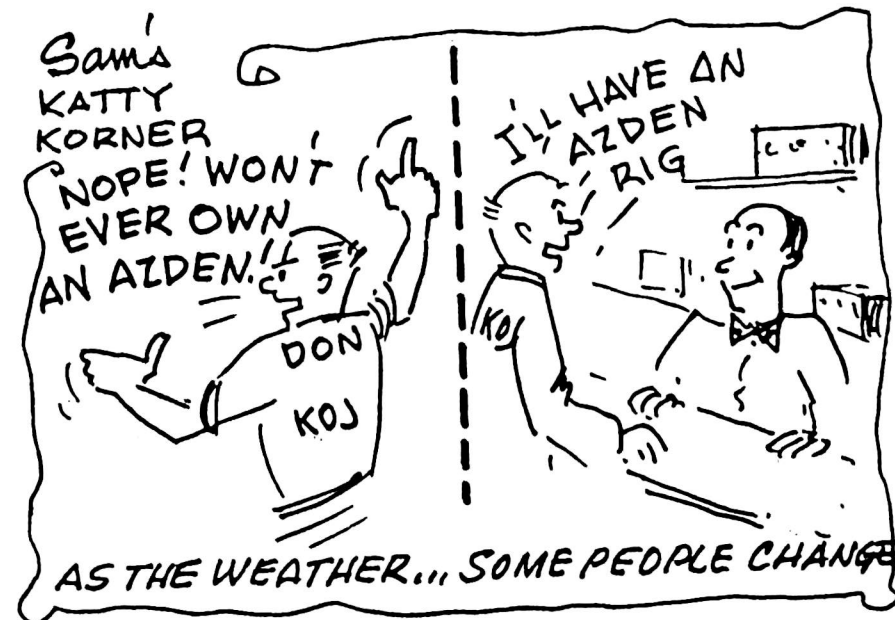
HELP PHIL-MONT

Are you planning to join the ARRL or renew your current membership?

Remember: The ARRL is more than just a magazine subscription!

Help Phil-Mont by joining or renewing through the club.

Contact Ed., KB3IV, for the details.





Fifty years ago Liberty was on the line.

Enemy submarines and aircraft were sinking our merchant ships faster than we could build them. If our sea lanes were closed we would lose the war.

America's answer to this threat was the Liberty Ship, a standardized, mass-produced freighter, destined to overwhelm with sheer numbers the enemy's capacity to sink them. More than 2700 Liberty Ships were built in 18 emergency shipyards all around our coasts. Liberty Ships carried two-thirds of all the wartime cargo that left the United States. They were the cargo ships that won the war!

Now, fifty years after the great Battle of the Atlantic, only one Liberty is left on the east coast. S.S. JOHN W. BROWN has been painstakingly restored and reactivated in the city of her birth, Baltimore. The BROWN is a living, steaming Memorial to the shipyard workers, merchant seamen and naval gunners who built, sailed and defended our wartime Merchant Marine.

Not a mere static display, the JOHN W. BROWN can steam on her own power, making periodic day cruises on Chesapeake Bay and adjacent waterways, giving hundreds of people an opportunity to relive their wartime adventures or to experience for the first time what it was like to sail on a Liberty Ship.

These "Cruise into History" feature live music from an 18 piece Big Band, with vocalists performing in a "USO Show," demonstrations of WW II equipment, tours of the ship, a flyby of WW II aircraft and much more. See the engine room and watch the BROWN's magnificent triple expansion engine in operation. Visit our museum spaces to view a rare collection of Liberty Ship artifacts.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to journey back to the momentous days of the Second World War. Sign on for the next voyage of the JOHN W. BROWN!

Last call for a cruise in 1992! Launched from the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard on Labor Day, 1942, the John W. Brown sails from Baltimore Harbor on her 50th birthday, September 6! The cruise will last about five hours, sailing down the Chesapeake, under the Bay Bridge near Annapolis, and returning.—call the Editor for last-minute information.

The PREZ SEZ

Bill Popovic, N3FVI

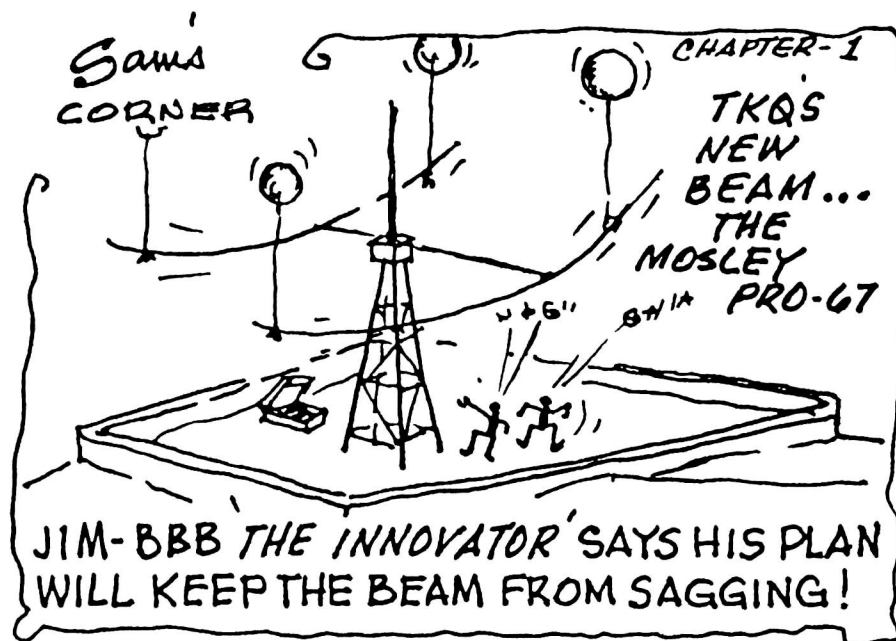


Thanks to Bob, KB2ERL; Al, W3STW; Barry, K3EUI; Jim, N3KGH; Bob, W3YLT; and Jake, AK2I, for their help in putting up the new beam at W3TKQ. The antenna project went smoothly, and it's working well on all six bands. Most of us use a wire antenna on forty meters, so stop in and try the beam, there is a big difference.

December and Phil-Mont elections will be here before you know it. Any successful organization requires dedicated people to run it. The nominating

committee will soon be looking for your help to elect people who will be an asset to PMRC. If you would like to run for an office, or know someone who you think should, please contact Jake, AK2I, or me.

The Mid-Month meetings are open to all members. If you have a topic to discuss, or are thinking of running for an office and want to see what is involved, please attend one. The meeting are held at different members' homes; some have space limitations, so please call me first.



LOOKAHEAD

- Sep 2 **General Meeting Program:**
Trevose/Hamtronics demonstrates
the latest from Alinco,
Icom and Kenwood
- Sep 3 License Examinations
- Sep 16 Directors' Meeting at
W3IRS's

[Please note the change.—Ed]

- Oct 1 License Examinations
- Oct 7 **General Meeting Program:**
PECO
"Power Line Safety"
- Oct 14 Directors' Meeting at
N3FTC & WU3I's
- Nov 4 **General Meeting**
Ol' Timers' Night
- Nov 5 License Examinations
- Nov 11 Directors' Meeting at
AK2I's

- Dec 2 **General Meeting**
Campaign Speeches
and Elections
- Dec 3 License Examinations
- Dec 16 Directors' Meeting

HAMFESTS

- Sept 13 **GAITHERSBURG, MD**
Foundation for Amateur Radio
- Sept 20 **PENNSAUKEN, NJ**
South Jersey Radio Association
- Sept 26-27 **YORK, PA**
- Oct 4 **GARDEN STATE RACETRACK**
Packrats
- Oct 18 **BENSALEM, PA**
Penn Wireless Assn.
- Oct 25 **DUBLIN, PA**
R.F. Hill ARC

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring a their original license and one photocopy of it. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1992 test fee is \$5.40; there is no charge for a Novice test.

Monthly, 1st Thursday
The FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
(215) 482-0386
(215) 879-0505

Monthly, 3rd Thursday
BELLMAWR, NJ
Bill Helmatag
(609) 546-7710

Irregularly
BRYN MAWR
Bob Lees
(215) 265-6032

Monthly, 1st Thursday
LEVITTOWN
Dave Heller, K3TX
(215) 946-1040
(215) 736-3333

Monthly, 3rd Wednesday
MORRISVILLE
Dave Munson, NM3K
(215) 788-7515

Monthly, 1st Monday
POTTSTOWN
Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764

Monthly, 3rd Monday
TELFORD
Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764

Monthly, Last Saturday
UNIVERSITY OF PA
Jeff DePolo, WN3A
(215) 898-8538
(215) 386-7199

Odd Months, Last Wednesday
WARMINSTER
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494

THE FCC IS ONCE AGAIN CONSIDERING ACCESS CHARGE PROPOSALS THAT COULD INCREASE YOUR COSTS FOR LOCAL MODEM ACCESS

In July 1991, the Federal Communications Commission adopted rules (CC Docket No. 89-79) which could increase by up to 300 percent the price of local telephone lines which employ new network features, and which are used by information service companies like CompuServe to provide its services to customers. In addition, at least one FCC Commissioner recently suggested that the Commission likely would reexamine whether various "modem fees" or "modem taxes" ought to be imposed on all information services. Consideration of any proposed "modem tax" would revive proposals made back in 1987 and 1989 to impose usage-sensitive common carrier-type access charges on information service companies. It is important that you understand the genesis of the FCC's latest rules, and how you can help to fight back.

THE FCC'S PRICE INCREASE PROPOSAL WAS ORIGINALLY DEFEATED IN 1987

The ability of CompuServe to offer advanced information services to its members on a reasonably-priced basis is dependent upon being able to obtain cost-based access to local telephone lines. To date, information service companies have been able to use non-usage-sensitive local business lines, obtained from the local telephone company's state tariffs, for distributing their on-line information services to customers. Under this arrangement, CompuServe has been able to provide its customers with hundreds of services at affordable prices that promote widespread usage.

However, you may recall that in 1987 the FCC issued a proposal which, if adopted, would have required information service providers (ISPs) like CompuServe to abandon their flat-rated, state-tariffed access arrangements. Instead, ISPs would have been required to pay usage-sensitive common carrier access charges, which were originally designed solely to be paid by long distance companies. After a massive letter writing campaign by CompuServe members, the FCC decided not to adopt its carrier access charge proposal.

WHY YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW

CompuServe and other information service providers have filed petitions with the FCC asking the agency to reconsider its July 1991 access charge decision. Congress also may consider legislation shortly which would prevent the FCC from imposing usage-sensitive carrier access charges on information providers as a condition of obtaining new network features.

CompuServe believes that cost-based access to advanced telephone network functionalities and features will be crucial in bringing the "Information Age" to all consumers. Members can help assure that the federal government does not impose what in effect are enormous financial penalties on information service providers and their members simply for attempting to use advanced network functionalities and services.

For more information, and suggested letter drafts, CompuServe members should enter GO FCC. Non members may contact the editor.

CLUB INFORMATION

24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ
(215) 448-1139

official certification. Upon certification, the entire application becomes part of the public record. And as a result, engineers frequent the FCC emissions-testing facility to copy their competitors' recently approved applications.

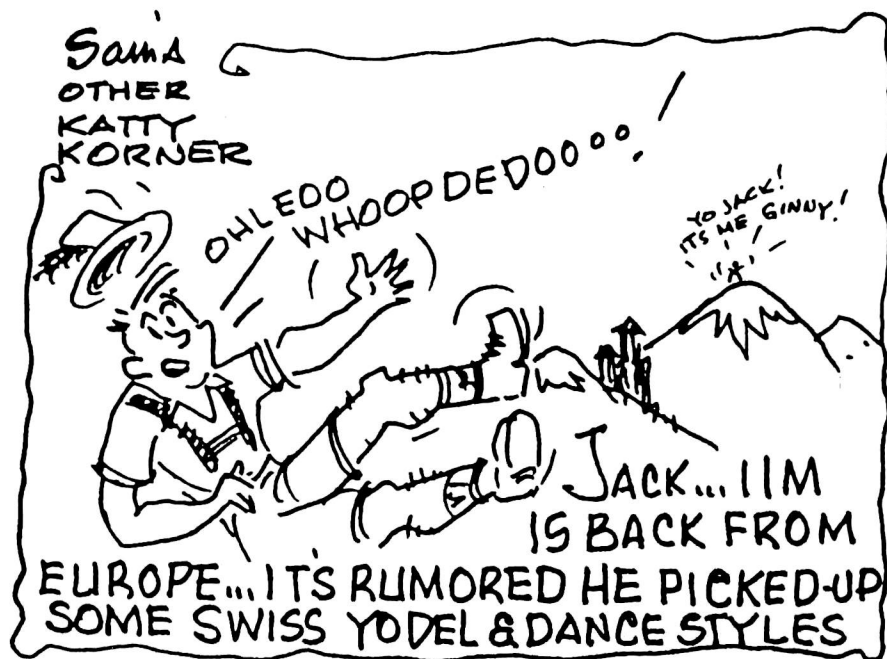
To help enforce the certification requirement, the FCC relies on a team of compliance police who conduct spot checks at trade shows and in retail stores. Violations are widespread, according to branch chief Cobbs, who said 66 violators were found at Comdex/Spring '92 alone.

While the agency has no powers of recall, it can fine companies heavily for non-compliance and refuse them additional certifications. Those caught out of compliance

more than twice face three years in jail and a \$150,000 fine, Cobbs said.

At one trade show, Lexmark was demonstrating a newly certified keyboard. Unfortunately, the floor unit did not have the mandated certification sticker. The FCC only issued a warning, but Lexmark is more careful today, according to Lexmark's Alspaugh.

Consumers who upgrade their PCs with motherboards, additional chips or boards need not worry about FCC compliance. However, Cobbs warns, systems integrators or companies that wish to build and label their own PCs will need to get an FCC certification before selling or deploying those units.



MINUTES

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

Steve Hoch, WU3I, Secretary



N3FVI opened the 513th general meeting at 8:01 pm. [close enough-Ed.] There were 25 members and 16 guests attending. The guests were Joe Reichenbach, WE3D; Don DiGiovanni; Aaron Sigel, KD4PWG; Barry Fierman, K3EUI; Dan Moore, N3BTB; Charlye [sic] Johnson, WN3PDB; Larry Persofsky, N3INO; Mike Venuti; Tim Nichols; Dottie Scialdone, K3YPH; Tom Maresca; John DiGiovanni, N3LUD; Bill Hagerty, AA3BB; Ted Braverman, Donald Stansey, N3LJC; and Barbara Hagerty.

KA3EBC reported on the Special Events committee: the MS-150 from Garden State Racetrack to Ocean City N.J. 9/19 & 9/20—volunteers needed for this event—contact Charlie. The weekend following the meeting, NS3Y was providing communications for a triathlon at a South Philly Rec center. All interested were to contact Sal. There were 14 stations which volunteered for the Cancer Society Bikathon. Thanks to all who participated.

AK2I reported on the Education Committee: the classes will resume in February at The Franklin Institute, with N3FTZ accompanied by K3YUN. Due to a foul-up, the classes were not scheduled for September. (P.S. we were ready)

KB3IV reported that the treasury was doing good for August: expenses outpaced income by 100%, but we were within budget.

The 50-50 was sold by N3FTC, drawn by KD4PWG, and won by WN3PDB.

N3FVI reported that N3IEI volunteered to handle the position of Publicity Officer requested by the League. The repeater's

UHF transmitter is down, N3FVI has set-up his dual-band rig for replacement temporarily.

AK2I reported on W3TKQ. Jake started off by offering a bargain on the last of the 'TKQ operator shirts. (He sold 4 of 5.)

He reported that Channel 6 was set to do a story on the younger operators of W3TKQ featuring Aaron Sigel, KD4PWG; and Ben Persofsky, KA3WWK, set to run in September on "Visions."

The Mosley PRO67B beam was installed on 8/1—many thanks to the crew of AK2I, K3EUI, W3STW, N3FVI, N3KGH, and KB2ERL. (They tried to get me to come home from vacation a day early to help, but to no avail. They, however, saved some work for me on the 40M element—the biggest at 45 ft.)

We are all reminded of the W3TKQ Operators' Net on the last Wednesday of the month. There are 41 registered operators for W3TKQ; many are missing in action, and haven't been seen for ages. **WE NEED COMMITTED OPERATORS. IF YOU HAVE THE TIME PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN.**

The guest operator position is not in as yet, and there will be no operations by guest operators until then. Guests can operate with regular operators acting as control operators. We are looking for equipment to set up "a typical novice station" within W3TKQ. Anyone with equipment to donate should contact Jake.

N3FVI, for N3GLH, introduced W3STW, Al Tribble, who gave an excellent program on Amateur Satellite operations.

The meeting was closed at 9:38 pm.

MINUTES

AUGUST DIRECTORS' MEETING

Steve Hoch, WU3I, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 8:28 on the arrival of N3FVI at the home of W3s IIM & IIN. Attending were AK2I, WU3I, W3BBB, W3PXY, W3IIM & N, W3GQD, K3KUD, KB3IV, N3DHI, AND N3FVI.

KB3IV reported that the treasury was running true to form for August, with expenses running under income for the period from the general meeting until the Board meeting. However, Ed noted that he had not received the bill for last month's *Blurb* printing and mailing.

W3IIN reported that we have 21 new members so far for 1992; up from many past years. The figure usually at 15 per year. Also, to those waiting for their new-membership packages: the delay has been eliminated, the Membership Certificates had to have the signatures of the President and Secretary before sending them out; this was done tonight.

Three applicants are to be voted-on this evening: Everett Powell, N3GPT; John Meska, N2RCJ; and Joseph Gallo, N3MUK. AK2I made the motion to accept the applicants; KB3IV seconded; the vote was unanimous. Welcome to all!!

W3BBB reported that the UHF unit will be coming out next week. This means the links will also be down for a few days.

N3FVI reported to the board that there have been many compliments on the *BLURB*,

and directed this to the Editor W3IIM.  (Personally I think the Blonde should get all the credit.) Jack also reminded all of the upcoming Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day on 9/19/92. Try to do your best to promote Ham Radio.

There was a prolonged discussion on problems caused by inactivity of officers and directors, and the options available to the Board. Tabled till future meeting.

There was a discussion on the nominations of officers, and AK2I was appointed Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

There was noted two responses to the Editor on the letter by Bill Clayton, K3HIE in the August *BLURB* page 10. See this month's Letter to the Editor column.

AK2I reported on W3TKQ: the Channel 6 "Visions" show to be taped at 'TKQ has been canceled by Channel 6. Jake is going to look into this to see about rescheduling.

The League has been doing a great job on getting the public relations supplies to us for the handouts and ARCHIE comics at 'TKQ. All the 'TKQ staff-shirts have been sold except 1 XL. Interested parties contact Jake.

As noted in the General Meeting minutes, the Fall Education Series, at The Institute, has not been scheduled and will be out till February.

The meeting ended at 10:08.

Continued from page 15

After the prototypes pass Lexmark's tests, they're shipped to an independent testing site for the FCC-certified emissions testing.

For radiated emissions testing, the best location is an open field, with no buildings or hills to reflect the radiation. Reflections could skew the results by causing equipment to measure the same energy more than once. In fact, the FCC facility in Columbia is located in the middle of an old farm.

In a field behind the FCC's offices, concrete platforms stand covered with grounding wire, test platforms and antennae. Three small build at fixed distances from the test site house monitoring equipment connected to the antennae.

However, most independent labs are not lucky enough to be located in the middle of a field. At these sites, the radiated emissions testing is held in shielded rooms called anechoic (without echoes) chambers. The chambers reduce background noise and reflectivity to less than 3 decibels above open field levels.

Every inch of the walls and ceiling of these shielded rooms is covered with 4-foot-long, electrically conductive foam teeth, making the room look like a stalactite-covered cave. (A semi-anechoic chamber has a regular floor, while a fully anechoic chamber uses foam teeth along the floor.) Whether in a field or in a chamber, all testing sites use the same equipment. A round, rotating table sits on one side of the testing area. Three meters away (for Class B testing) is a horizontal bar with two types of antennae: biconical and log-periodic. The biconical antenna, shaped like a bow-tie, records radiation between 10MHz and 200MHz. The log-periodic antenna, which resembles a standard TV antenna, takes over at 200MHz and goes up to 1,000MHz (or 1GHz).

During emissions testing, the unit being tested rotates on the table. The antennae move up and down on a 4-meter pole, looking for worst-case emissions at each frequency. The lab officials compare this worst-case curve to FCC guidelines, and if radiated energy at every measured frequency is below the FCC limit, the unit passes.

Interestingly, the antennae do not measure emissions directly above or below the unit being tested. So, PCs or other devices located on adjacent floors of a building can often interfere with each other, despite their FCC certification. Conductive interference testing is scored similarly to the radiated emissions testing, but does not require special rooms or open fields. The unit's power cord is plugged into a line impedance stabilization network (LISN) attached to a metal plate.

A spectrum analyzer measures the energy produced at frequencies between 10KHz, which is low enough to be audible if picked up by speaker wiring, and 30MHz, which is just above the CB radio band. The test indicates the energy the unit would pump into a building's wiring through an outlet. That energy could potentially interfere with TV or radio reception by using the building wiring as an antenna, or by entering a poorly designed radio or television through its power supply.

Passing the Tests

After a product passes the radiated and conductive emissions evaluations, the manufacturer submits to the FCC the test data, a schematic drawing of the electronic circuitry and photographs of all components. The FCC uses the photographs to verify that the shipped product matches the one that was tested.

Once the FCC receives the application, it can take up to eight weeks to get the

"DON'T TAILGATE—WAIT"—for the courtesy chime!

dense haze and continued north in sight of land, but the compass readings were still useless. After several hours of sailing the compass readings suddenly appeared to be normal, and the ship now proceeded at normal speed, arriving at the Navy Yard Wednesday, May 23.

This information came to me from a Yeoman 1st Class whom I knew at the public information office at BLG-G, several years prior. He was aboard the LPH-9 and recorded the event which he passed on to me. He requested at that time not to give-out the story, or mention how I got it. He stated that the ship's force, the entire crew, was advised by the ship's executive officer, on request by the captain, not to discuss the event with anyone.

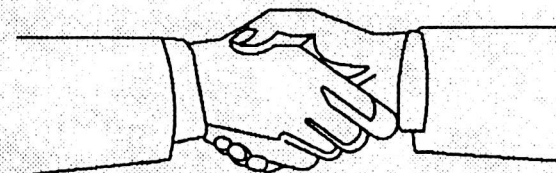
That request is not unusual, as the Navy frowns on publicizing any Naval event of unexplainable nature. However, like you, I only know what I have read, and what I have seen.

SAFETY
THE PHILADELPHIA BUSINESS JOURNAL

Sam's dilemma



August 22, 1992



NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

CALL:
NAME:
HANDLE:
CLASS:
ADDRESS:

WE3D

Joseph Richenbach
Rik
Extra
3031 W. Coulter Street
Philadelphia, PA
19129

HOME PHONE: (215) 438-2570
BUSINESS PHONE:
OCCUPATION: Retired
INTERESTS: W3TKQ

CALL:
NAME:
HANDLE:
CLASS:
ADDRESS:

N1KEE

Garrett Deacon
Garrett
Technician
325 Union Ave., Apt. C
Delanco, NJ
08075

HOME PHONE: (609) 461-0450
BUSINESS PHONE:
OCCUPATION: Engineer
INTERESTS: W3TKQ, Repeater

CALL:
NAME:
HANDLE:
CLASS:
ADDRESS:

KA3LCW

Harold Burks
Novice
1 Loxley Court
Philadelphia, PA
19106

HOME PHONE: (215) 928-0829
BUSINESS PHONE:
OCCUPATION: Retired/Red Cross Volunteer
INTERESTS:

CALL:
NAME:
HANDLE:
CLASS:
ADDRESS:

N3MQL

Thomas McDonald
Butch
Technician
1605 Overbrook Drive
Gwynedd Valley, PA
19437

HOME PHONE: (215) 699-2488
BUSINESS PHONE:
OCCUPATION: Student
INTERESTS: Publicity, Special Events

CALL:
NAME:
HANDLE:
CLASS:
ADDRESS:

WA3NSP

William Mannino
Bill
Advanced
1262 Pennsylvania Avenue
Oreland, PA
19075

HOME PHONE: (215) 887-0263
BUSINESS PHONE: (215) 887-5075
OCCUPATION: Barber/Hair stylist
INTERESTS: W3TKQ, Net Control

CALL:
NAME:
HANDLE:
CLASS:
ADDRESS:

KD4PWG

Aaron Sigel
Aaron
Technician plus
7806 Oak Lane Road
Cheltenham, PA
19012

HOME PHONE: (215) 635-5014
BUSINESS PHONE:
OCCUPATION: Student
INTERESTS: W3TKQ

THE W 3 T K Q

REPORT

by
Jake Kovalchek,
AK2I

THE FUTURE OF W3TKQ IS IN YOUR HANDS

This year I have been asked to serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee, and I accepted gladly, because it will give me an opportunity to help prepare the way for a stronger W3TKQ, and a more influential Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club.

The strength of any organization is in its officers. It's as simple as that. We must have people that are willing and capable of a commitment. You must be willing to devote some of your time to the Mid-Month meetings, and the General Meetings, for it is here, at these meetings, that the membership develops insight from your strength. You must be willing to devote your talents.

One thing we cannot permit is negative campaigning. If you cannot, or will not run for office, please do not downgrade the responsibility to the other membership, for we are still able, through the actions of some, to apply peer pressure in a negative way, which can be very damaging.

All officers and/or directors must be willing to do the job, not just now, but for the next twelve months. Positive attitudes are contagious, so I'm asking your help again.

The offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Director are all coming up for a December vote. If you have what it takes to develop programs and direction for a great club, then step forward and be heard.

Man or woman, your help and strength is needed. Please make my job easier by coming forward and proving that your leadership is what is needed to drive home a better Phil-Mont, and an even stronger W3TKQ.

Call (609) 428-5924—let's talk. The time for apathy and indifference in our club is over—forever!

The Bermuda Triangle— another event

Sam Kuncevich

I suppose just about everyone has read something about the Bermuda, or Devil's Triangle. And too, have some kind of opinion, fact or fancy, on what they read. But, I don't suppose there are many who have gone through that area, and experienced some strange goings on. Well here is a first hand account of one such event. This is straight out of my personal work record on a day-by-day basis since 1952, my first year at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

I was working for the Pera Cru-Des group at that time. The term Pera is Planning, Estimating, Repairs and Alterations. Cru-Des is short for the Cruiser Destroyer class ships. The Cruiser Albany, CG-10, had just completed a minor overhaul at the Navy Yard, and an inspection was to be made for additional work at Mayport, Florida. I was assigned with three others to make the inspection, and record the findings for the plan work to follow.

This was to be done aboard ship while under way to Mayport with a brief stop-off at Norfolk, Virginia for some radar testing with aircraft. With that part complete, test of the refueling at sea, and personnel transfer ship-to-ship was also done.

We left the Navy Yard on Saturday June 22, 1974 about 9:45 AM, and we were now three days at sea just below Cape Hatteras. On the Tuesday the 25th we found ourselves in a tropical type storm that seemed to follow us southward. By the time we reached a point off Charleston, South Carolina, the storm was gone, and we were in a dense fog and rolling sea. Word got around that all compass readings were erratic; even the emergency steering room reported compass failure. We, the inspection group, were

notified by a message from Jacksonville Naval Air Station that they were not able to send a helicopter out to the ship, as was planned, to pick us up, and take us to Jacksonville for the trip home. The ship by now had slowed to minimum speed; it was evident we were on judgement navigation.

This continued for two more days, with only radio communication and radar guidance. We had reached a point near Miami when a message informed us that the Mayport area was safe for helicopter transfer.

By dead reckoning, the ship's navigator made a complete turnaround and headed (what we hoped was) back north. Radar however warned of an approaching coastal area. After another day and night we were surprised to hear that all compass readings were now working and accurate. On Sunday morning June 30, about 10:15 AM, the helicopter hovered over the fantail (stern), and we were hoisted up and headed for Jacksonville. We had survived the Triangle.

The next event came to me from another first-hand source. A different ship at a different time, but again a familiar happening. The helicopter carrier USS New Orleans LPH-9, left Guantanamo Bay, Cuba on Tuesday May 15, 1979, destination Philadelphia Navy Yard for extensive overhaul. After some brief exercise off Key West with patrol craft, they headed north off the Florida coast. It was May 19. South of Mayport, Florida the LPH-9 was suddenly surrounded by thick fog and found all compass readings were erratic. Radio communications were in good order and functioning between Jacksonville Air Station and the LPH-9.

For three days the ship remained at a near standstill. Finally the ship was out of the

88TH MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS AUGUST

22 candidates pass 28 elements
7 new amateurs plus 6 upgrades

VE team members:

Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman

Bob Wilcox, KE3CZ; Niel Leone, W3FZR; Steve Hoch, WU3I;
Marty Gold, K2ID; Al Tribble, W3STW; Joel Kleinguenther, KA3SWU

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NEWSLETTERS EXCHANGED

Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society (BRATS)
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Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club (DLARC)
Delmont Radio Club
EASTLINK
Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC)
Mobile Sixers Radio Club
Penn Wireless Association
R F Hill Amateur Radio Club
Reading Radio Club
Sussex Amateur Radio Ass'n (SARA) (Delaware)
Tompkins County Amateur Radio Club (New York)
Warminster Amateur Radio Club
Worldradio Magazine

Exchanges with additional parties are welcomed.

HARDWARE

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Spencer's dilemma



"I'm sorry, sir, but hammers only come in a three pack now."

AN OPEN LETTER TO BILL CLAYTON, K3HIE

Your critical letter concerning the recent story about The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club's feature article in July 1992 QST simply cannot go unanswered, for it contains some terribly unfair statements:

First, every organization welcomes informed opinions, for they help to strengthen the fibre of the philosophy of the group or club. Unfortunately yours was an uninformed opinion spoken without regard to the truth. For example, you included Kay Craigie, WT3P, when you said "I fail to see how the first three contributed a darn thing to the station." Here are the facts, Bill:

Kay Craigie spent a lot of personal time in developing statistics and other history for our club, in order to help prove to Angela Cooper of The Franklin Institute why it was imperative to keep Phil-Mont. Kay was at every meeting called, and their were many, all at her own expense, and at her family's expense. She was not compelled in any way, in her official position at the ARRL of Atlantic Division Vice Director, to give us anything, but she did so of her own free will. Her articulation of the problem changed the mind of The Institute and gave us what we have today, the opportunity to help develop the greatest amateur radio station in the world. It would have been impossible to do the job that was done without Kay.

Kay Craigie is a Volunteer Operator of W3TKQ.

Kay was one of the original \$500 donors who has a console dedicated to her and her husband, Carter.

Kay and Carter, KD3AO, donated another \$250 for the development of W3TKQ. A grand total of \$750 of their personal funds just for the development of our station.

You could have learned these very important facts Bill, if you only asked. An uninformed opinion is verbal garbage. The kind of thing you hear from some of the politicians that's choking the informed ecology Bill, and the last thing we need is more from you.

In my opinion, you owe Kay Craigie an apology. Pure and simple. You just didn't bother to ask anyone.

Secondly, it took the article in QST to rouse you from hibernation in the form of a letter. Where were you when I was calling for at least \$14.25 from each member? I checked the records which showed that you gave nothing to the rebirth of W3TKQ. Some gave me their time, some gave their money, some gave of their encouragement over the repeater, others gave by attending meetings and shouting words of encouragement. You were not seen at any meetings that I attended; there were no words of encouragement from you in the form of letters, nor were you at any Mid-Month meetings where all concerned members are invited to attend at any time and voice their feelings about any and all issues before the board.

Yet you find the time to write an uninformed letter to me via the BLURB. How convenient.

Was the real reason you wrote the letter because I failed to mention Jim Spencer? Uninformed again Bill. Let no one in the club fail to understand my high regard for Jim Spencer. If you would have only asked, I would have been glad to send you, at my own expense, a complete copy of the article sent to QST. What they choose to print is another story.

I lived the dream Bill, for two years, knowing that people like Jim Spencer, Jinny Haring, Kay Craigie, and all the other wonderful volunteers who continue to give of their time, would be available to help me when they were needed. They were not interested in accolades then or now.

Criticize me for being a lousy journalist, but please, if you don't know all the facts, please ask. Your comments tear at the very fabric of a good club.

AK2I

Kay Craigie replies:

Dear Phil-Mont:

I'm writing in response to Bill, K3HIE's letter in the last BLURB. He and I share sincere respect and admiration for Jim, W3BBB. However, I wish that in praising Jim, Bill had refrained from attacking me. I don't deserve it, and I don't appreciate it.

Supporting the W3TKQ rescue-and-res-toration project at a crisis point in its history was, as I see it, part of my job as an elected (volunteer) official of the ARRL. Normally, I prefer to let my actions speak for themselves. But this time, it seems some words are needed, too.

When Phil-Mont learned that W3TKQ was about to be closed, Dick, W3RM, phoned and asked for my help. Because he is a key volunteer at the Smithsonian Institution's NN3SI station, our ARRL Atlantic Division Director, Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, agreed to come up from the Washington, DC, area to join Jake, AK2I, and me in an emergency meeting with a museum official.

The official, however, stood us up at the last minute, and did so a second time before a meeting finally took place.

In preparation for that meeting, I assembled a presentation folder about today's Amateur Radio, both in general and in the multi-state area served by the museum. This included ARRL literature and some pages of statistics I developed showing how many hams lived in various parts of the museum's service area.

Also, I researched the museum's mission statement. To succeed, our argument had to show that Amateur Radio helps the museum achieve its own goals. To paraphrase President Kennedy, we couldn't go in there asking The Franklin Institute to do

something for ham radio; we had to go in there ready to prove what ham radio could do for The Franklin Institute.

In addition, because Hugh couldn't keep coming from Washington over and over again, I conferred with him at length about ham radio at the Smithsonian, and how ham radio could be "pitched" most effectively to a museum official. He permitted me to promise some help from the Atlantic Division in getting the word out to hams about the station.

I decided to emphasize that Amateur Radio is an integral part of fulfilling the museum's goal of interpreting modern science and technology for the lay person. How better than through ham radio could a person gain hands-on, life-long, educational experience of high technology? Having learned the museum's current emphasis on the future, rather than on history, I highlighted the satellite, SAREX, and digital sides of ham radio. I mentioned that when NN3SI comes back on the air, we might schedule some QSOs between the two museum stations that could be good PR for both museums.

I also showed that there are thousands of hams, who have families in the museum's service area, who would be pleased if ham radio continued at the museum, but angry if ham radio were terminated. I added that Hugh and I would do what we could to spread the word among hams about the exhibit.

It was simple: If Jake and I blew it, W3TKQ was dead. But we succeeded. The station lived! Consequently, W3BBB and company had a lot of work to do, and they did it brilliantly.

FCC Authorization Facility Puts Hardware to the Test

Exams for Radio-Frequency Emissions Ensure that PC Equipment Creates No Interference

By Jim Louderback -PC Week

Computer hardware must pass many evaluations before it gets to market, not the least of which are the emissions tests required by the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC, the agency that regulates radio emissions for compliance with U.S. standards, requires all computer hardware to pass emissions tests before the agency will issue its certification. No computer equipment can be sold or even demonstrated without that mark of approval.

The FCC certifies hardware as Class A or Class B. Devices intended only for business sites, such as computers that control factory equipment, receive Class A certification, while products intended for home use need the more restrictive Class B certification. PCs, for example, warrant the Class B certification because they are used at both business sites and in homes. This certification requires that the equipment not cause interference to devices like a television whose antenna is at least 30 feet away; for Class A, it's 100 feet.

The emissions evaluation tests the equipment for both radiated emissions and conducted emissions. Radiated emissions travel through space; conducted emissions pass through the power cords or other attached cables. Either type can cause electromagnetic interference, affecting the operation of radios, televisions and other communications equipment.

Independent test labs certified by the FCC usually conduct the tests. The FCC's own testing and authorization facility tests only about one unit for every 20 the independent facilities evaluate, usually with the expectation that the equipment will pass, according to Charles Cobbs, chief of the

FCC's Equipment Authorization Branch in Columbia, Md. These FCC tests "check the testing firm as much as the sample [equipment]," Cobbs added.

The reliability of the testing facility is crucial to compliance with emissions standards. When IBM released its original PC in 1981, it shunned its regular testing site in favor of a start-up testing facility, according to one industry observer. Three months later, much to IBM's surprise, printer vendors told IBM that its machines weren't in compliance. IBM had to inform the FCC and remedy the problem, the observer said. Getting a Head Start

Some manufacturers try to get a head start in the certification process. For instance, Lexmark International Inc., a manufacturer of printers and keyboards in Lexington, Ky., keeps compliance in mind during the product design phase.

"Card layout is the dominant place to watch for [electro-magnetic interference]," said George Alspaugh, manager of acoustics, EMC and thermal testing for Lexmark.

The choice of components, the design of the circuits and the crossing of the ground lines can all significantly affect electromagnetic radiation, Alspaugh said.

Once card prototypes are completed, Lexmark also runs them through its own tests to evaluate their compliance with the FCC standards. At this point, Alspaugh said, "cables are the big problem."

To bring the systems into compliance, Lexmark uses toroids, which are metal donuts around which connecting wires are wrapped, and ferrite beads, which are tiny toroids. Both components reduce emissions by dissipating energy into the toroids' cores.

Continued on page 19

CLEAN AIR

The newly formed Ham Radio Business Council and Senator Barry M. Goldwater, K7UGA say that it's time to clear the air. Clear it, that is, of all the jamming and foul language that the council says the FCC is unwilling to act against. So, at the recent Dayton Hamvention, the HRBC revealed its plans to bring such great public pressure to bear on congress and the FCC that the government will be forced to take the worst offenders off the air without delay.

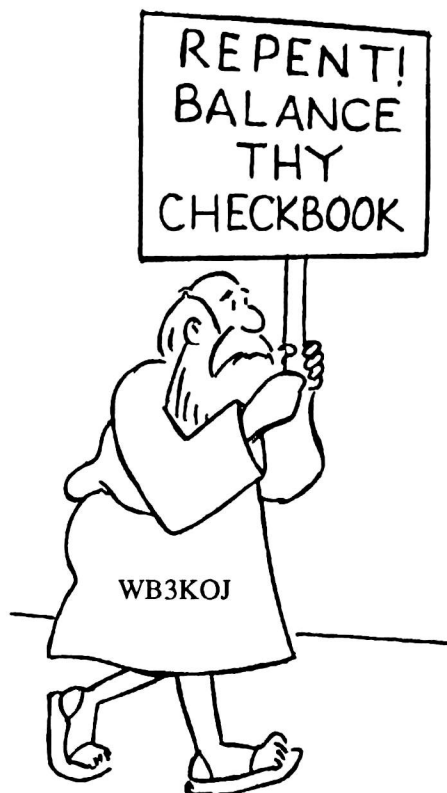
The text of the HRBC petition is short and to the point. It cites regulation 97.113 D as specifically prohibiting the use of obscene, indecent or profane language on the ham bands. It also notes that Part 97.101 D forbids any type of willful and malicious interference by one amateur to another. It ends by placing a demand on the FCC to rid the amateur service of those hams who habitually break these rules. This, by redirecting FCC priorities in the enforcement arena.

As if to underscore the importance of this petition, it has been revealed that amateur radio's elder statesman, Senator Barry M. Goldwater, K7UGA was the first to sign the HRBC Clean Air Petition. That ceremony took place at his home in Scottsdale, Arizona in early April. At that time Senator Goldwater offered his support to the Ham Radio Business Council in getting congressional interest for this ham radio Clean Air act.

The Ham Radio Business Council says that any radio amateur or radio club interested in getting the bad guys off the air are invited to help. This, by circulating the Clean Air Petition nationwide. You can get a copy by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to the Clean Air Petition, in care of the Ham Radio Business Council, Post Office Box 5832, St. Louis, Missouri 63134.

Reprinted from Radio Amateur Newsline via DLARC.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



KB3IV's dilemma



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To all Phil-Mont members: September 19th & 20th is the MS-150 Bike Tour. We would like to have as many members participate as possible, and make this event a success as we did for the Cancer Society Bikeathon.

The course starts at the Garden State Racetrack on Saturday 9/19, and ends in Ocean City, NJ. On Sunday 9/20 it returns to the racetrack. If you can help, even if it is for only one day, or would like more information, contact Charlie, KA3EBC, either on the repeater, or at (215) 324-0167 in the evenings.

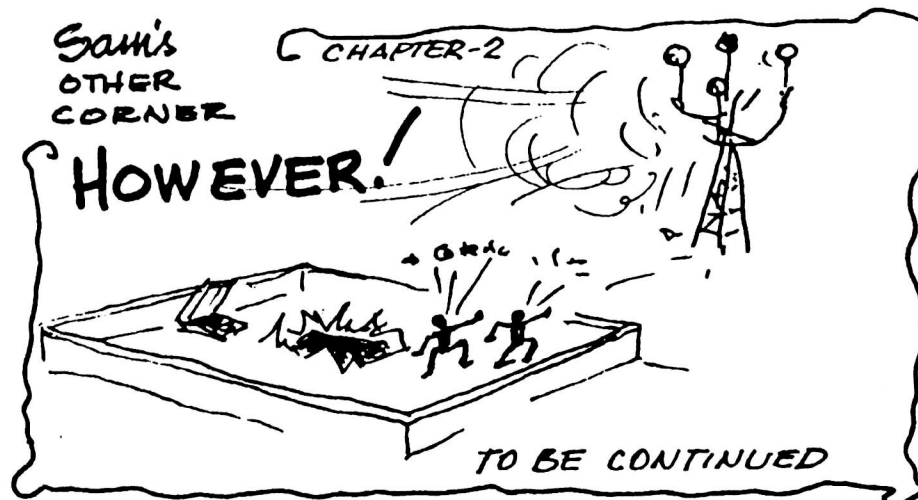
When I speak at club meetings and ARRL forums around the Division, I frequently mention the W3TKQ project as an example of what can be done by a GROUP of dedicated hams. The station has been noted in communications that Hugh and I send out to clubs, in print and on packet radio. I discussed the exhibit with the League's Educational Activities Department, which supplies all those handouts and flyers, so they understand the station's needs and circumstances better.

Finally, I spoke about the W3TKQ volunteer experience at the ARRL's East Coast Educational Conference in 1991. That talk was published in the proceedings of the conference, available from ARRL. So I think my promise to publicize the station has been fulfilled, but I plan to continue to "point with pride" to W3TKQ and all those who made it happen.

(By the way, neither Hugh nor I used any influence regarding the QST article and cover photograph. They succeeded entirely on their own merits.)

I believe all this adds up to at least "a darn thing for the station."

73, Kay Craigie, WT3P



1992

SEPTEMBER

1992

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 N3ALW W2GMA W3STW WT3P WU3I NS3Z	2 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC GENERAL MEETING at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 PM Meeting starts after 7:30	3 N3FV/ AK2I LICENSE EXAMS at The Franklin Institute Registration begins at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 PM <i>sharp!</i>	4 WU3I W3LKI NS3Z	5 AG2H K3JJO K3TEF W3YLT
6 AA2FU N2JFF WB3JUA WT3X NS3Y KT3Z 2M NCS NS3Z 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3PWG	7 W3PWG WU3I K3VXU <i>Labor Day</i>	8 N3ALW W2GMA W3STW WT3P WU3I NS3Z	9 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC	10 N3FV/ AK2I	11 WU3I W3LKI NS3Z	12 N3GMH AG2H K3TEF KA3WWK NS3Y
13 AA2FU N2JFF WB3JUA WT3X NS3Y KT3Z 2M NCS KB3IV 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3AOA <i>Grandparents' Day</i> <i>Gaithersburg Hamfest</i>	14 W3PWG WU3I K3VXU	15 N3ALW W2GMA W3STW WT3P WU3I NS3Z CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM	16 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC DIRECTORS' MEETING at W3IRS's	17 N3FV/ AK2I	18 WU3I W3LKI NS3Z	19 N3GMH AG2H K3TEF KA3WWK NS3Y Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day <i>MS-150 Bike Tour</i>
20 AA2FU N2JFF WB3JUA WT3X NS3Y KT3Z 2M NCS AK2I 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3RCE <i>Pennsauken Hamfest</i>	21 W3PWG WU3I K3VXU	22 N3ALW W2GMA W3STW WT3P WU3I NS3Z CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM N3ALW <i>Autumnal Equinox</i>	23 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC	24 N3FV/ AK2I	25 WU3I W3LKI NS3Z	26 N3GMH AG2H K3TEF KA3WWK NS3Y
27 AA2FU N2JFF WB3JUA WT3X NS3Y KT3Z 2M NCS N3FTY 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS AK2I <i>York Hamfest</i>	28 W3PWG WU3I K3VXU <i>Rosh Hashonah</i>	29 N3ALW W2GMA W3STW WT3P WU3I NS3Z CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM AK2I	30 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC  OPERATORS' NET at 8 PM	<i>Often times, it shows an excellent command of language by saying nothing.</i>		